Prosecution of officials and politicians

1832. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of request from C.B.I. for the grant of permission for the prosecution of officials and politicians are pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not according permission for their prosecution in each case; and

(c) by when this sanction is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) As on 31.01.2006, 95 cases for grant of prosecution sanction are pending with various Ministries/Departments of Central Government and State Governments. Each case is examined separately by the authorities concerned and decided on merits at the earliest possible.

Five days week for Government Offices

1833. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) when was the five days week for Central Government offices introduced;

(b) whether any study has been made about the advantages of the above system; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to switch over to six days week for Central Government offices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The five days week system for Central Government Administrative offices was introduced in June, 1985.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The five-day week system was reviewed through study conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms in 1988 and 1989 as also in the light of the recommendations of the 5th Central

Pay Commission. Consequent to the review, Government Departments with predominantly public dealings or of a commercial nature were advised to review the existing arrangement and switch over to six day week working, wherever feasible.

Procedure for writing of ACR

†1834. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision for changing the procedure regarding writing annual confidential report of officers;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that now their assessment would be done by a group of experts;

(c) what would be the selection procedure of these experts and from which fields these experts would be taken; and

(d) the reaction of the officers on the changed procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) A proposal for changing the procedure regarding writing of Annual Confidential Reports of Indian Administrative Service Officers is under consideration.

Working of Right to Information Act

1835. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have analyzed the working of right to Information Act, if so, the findings in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that Central Information Commission has given a questionable ruling by endorsing proposal to prescribe a standard format for the purpose of making an application; and

(c) whether the decision is contrary to the provisions to the Act, if so, the steps taken to correct the anomaly?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.